**VAS - Comics - K&U - 2012**

Here is the assessment rubric for this part of the project

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Response goes well beyond expectations in conveying understanding | Response shows an complete understanding of the concepts | Response shows a nearly complete understanding of the concepts | Response shows a satisfactory understanding of the concepts | Response shows very little understanding of the concepts | Response not present or completely misses the mark |
| Observe | **Form** – your analysis of the form shows an **understanding** of the important expressive aspects of the **visual language** | 10 | 9.5 | 8.5 | 7.5 | 6.5 | 5.5 |
| Understand Art World | **Theme** – Your analysis of the theme shows insight into the meaning of the art | 10 | 9.5 | 8.5 | 7.5 | 6.5 | 5.5 |
| **Context** – your answer shows an insightful analysis of the context in which the art was made | 10 | 9.5 | 8.5 | 7.5 | 6.5 | 5.5 |
| **Synthesis** – your writing clearly shows **active thinking** on how Form, Theme and Context help decode the meaning of the art | 10 | 9.5 | 8.5 | 7.5 | 6.5 | 5.5 |

If you give yourself a 10 for any question explain why your response **goes well beyond expectations**. *Remember I expect you to answer the questions effectively – so don’t just tell me that you did what I expect!!*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Theme question |  |
| Form question |  |
| Context question |  |
| Synthesis question |  |

Complete the questions below thoroughly and clearly.

Go to this site <http://www.comic-art.com/history/history1.htm> to read about the history of mainstream comics. It is a ten part series. The questions below are related to various parts. Read the entire article and then refer to the specific parts sited to help you answer each question.

**Read Sections 1 – 3**

**Form -** Explain what changes the creation of Superman, and its subsequent publication, had on the comics industry.

**Theme-** After WWII comics shifted away from super heroes towards stories of crime and horror. Women were depicted in especially sexist ways, scantily clad and very buxom. Blood and gore were everywhere and often times the bad guys got away. Psychologist Frederic Wertham wrote a book Seduction of the Innocent which claimed that comics caused boys to rob and rape, use drugs and do less well in school.

Read **Sections 4 – 6**

**Write an argument in support of, or against, the idea that popular media (comic books, advertising, the internet, etc.) have influence over the way that young people behave**. *This will be your opinion but you should support your ideas with examples from the real world and make a logical argument.*

**Context**- Marvel’s comic book super heroes were different in the way they approached their fate from their counterparts in the 1940’s. They were reluctant to take on their roles and they seemed to suffer as a result of having these powers.

**Read Sections 7 – 9**

**Why do you think this would make these superheroes so popular among comic book fans from the 1970’s and 80’s?**

**Synthesis** - Read [*Underground Comix*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Underground_comics) (*you only have to read the Intro and Early History sections*)and [*Comics Code Authority*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comics_Code_Authority) *(you only have to read the intro and “Founding” sections)* for background on answering this next question.

**How did underground comix allow artists to have a greater freedom of expression than their mainstream counterparts? How was this freedom utilized?**